

A G E N D A

Standards Committee

Date: **Friday, 4th July, 2008**

Time: **2.00 p.m.**

Place: **The Council Chamber, Brockington, 35
Hafod Road, Hereford**

Notes: Please note the **time, date** and **venue** of the meeting.

For any further information please contact:

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Herefordshire Council

AGENDA

for the Meeting of the Standards Committee

To: Robert Rogers (Independent Member) (Chairman)

Richard Gething (Parish and Town Council Representative)

John Hardwick (Parish and Town Council Representative)

David Stevens (Independent Member)

John Stone (Local Authority Representative)

Beris Williams (Local Authority Representative)

	Pages
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE To receive apologies for absence.	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive any declarations of interest by Members in respect of items on the agenda.	
3. MINUTES To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2008.	5 - 12
4. CODE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE To consider and agree a revised Code of Corporate Governance for the Council, following the new governance framework and guidelines. Wards: County Wide	13 - 46
5. APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATIONS RECEIVED FROM PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS To consider applications for dispensations received from parish and town councils. <i>(Note: at the time that this agenda went to print, no applications had been received. If any applications for dispensations are received before the meeting, an oral report will be given.)</i> Wards: County Wide	
6. LOCAL ASSESSMENT: INITIAL HANDLING OF COMPLAINTS To consider the proposed complaint form, guidance notes and assessment criteria in accordance with local assessment guidance issued by the Standards Board for England. Wards: County Wide	47 - 94

7.	ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS SEMINAR To consider the report of the Assistant Chief Executive – Legal and Democratic, in respect of a Standards Board for England Seminar on alternative action (i.e. other than conducting investigations and hearings), and to devise a strategy in relation to this. Wards: County Wide	95 - 104
8.	ROLE AND COMPOSITION OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES To consider revisions to the Council’s Constitution in respect of the Standards Committee and its Sub-Committees, in the light of the Standards Committee (England) Regulations 2008 and the guidance issued by the Standards Board for England entitled: “the Role and Make Up of Standards Committees”. Wards: County Wide	105 - 124
9.	JOINT WORKING WITH OTHER STANDARDS COMMITTEES To consider progress made with proposals for joint Standards Committee working arrangements. Wards: County Wide	125 - 126
10.	JOINT TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS To consider joint training arrangements with other Local Authority Standards Committees. Wards: County Wide	127 - 128
11.	RECRUITMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER To receive an oral report on progress made with recruiting an additional Independent Member for the Standards Committee. Wards: County Wide	
12.	STANDARDS COMMITTEE HEARING ARRANGEMENTS To consider a proposed Committee and officers’ guide on the arrangements for local determination hearings. (Note: This report will be sent “to follow”.) Wards: County Wide	
13.	MEMBER/OFFICER RELATIONS PROTOCOL To consider revisions to the Council’s Constitution in respect of the Protocol for Member/Officer Relations. Wards: County Wide	129 - 144
14.	STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND/HEREFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS JOINT PILOT PROJECT To consider an oral update on the Joint SBE/HALC Pilot Project. Wards: County Wide	

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

In the opinion of the Proper Officer, the following item will not be, or is likely not to be, open to the public and press at the time it is considered.

RECOMMENDATION: that under section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as indicated below

15. LOCAL ASSESSMENT: RETURNS REPORT TO THE STANDARDS BOARD FOR ENGLAND

To update the Committee about progress made with complaints during the period up to 30th July 2008.

(Note: at the time that this agenda went to print, no complaints had been received. If any complaints are received before the meeting, an oral report will be given.)

Wards: County Wide

(This item discloses information which is subject to an obligation of confidentiality)